Questions and Answers – LLE MEd Breakout Session

The following question and answer (Q&A) information is a result of the Q&A period which took place following the LLE MEd presentation.

More about Admissions and Timelines

We are still accepting application for the September 2021 start.

You are highly encouraged to submit your application as soon as possible. Fall/Winter course enrolment begins mid-July. Therefore, receiving a notification of result prior to this time is beneficial as it will allow accepted applicants to access and enroll in courses when they become available.

Does this program qualify us for teaching like the Master of Teaching program?

No, the Master of Education program does not lead to teacher certification. The Master of Teaching program leads to teacher certification. To learn more about the MT program, visit their website at www.oise.utoronto.ca/MT

The Master of Education in the Language Teaching field in LLE will give you some teaching experience that you can put on your CV but it does not qualify you to teach in Ontario’s public schools.

How long do most people take to complete the part time program?

Part-time registered students can enroll in 1 half-course per term (Fall, Winter, Summer). Therefore, to complete 10 half courses, it will take 3.5 years to complete the program.

Do you offer summer and spring courses?

Yes, we offer courses in the Summer: intersession (May-June) and summer session (July-August). Intersession and Summer session courses run over six-weeks for six hours per week versus Fall and Winter which are 12 weeks in length at three hours per week.

Full-time registered students can take up to 2 half-courses in each session (intersession and summer). It's hard to take two courses in one term but not impossible.

Part-time registered students can take 1 half-course in either the intersession or summer session.
Flexibility of the MEd program

Students are able to take an educational leave from their job and change their registration status to full-time to take a full-course load. Alternatively, they can opt for a part-time registration status to balance work and studies.

About Doctoral Studies

If you think that you might want to pursue doctoral research, then you can consider the Master of Arts (MA) program, which requires a written thesis, and is the most direct way to go to get into a PhD. We do have a few MEd graduates who are now in our PhD program or beginning it this year.

What are the typical career paths for students who have completed this program?

Since the MEd is for experienced teachers, many of them use this continued education to advance their careers. They might move into more administrative work like vice principal or principal or director of a program. They may also be eligible for salary increases. This program gives them a little bit more independence to take leadership roles in their professions, some jobs require master's degree. They may be public school teachers and they want to move into teaching at a community college or a language school or overseas were Masters of Education is required. But I think a lot of people use it for taking on more leadership roles.

Sharing from Current Student - Jeff

In my particular case. I, for various reasons, would like to head back to China to teach. Depending on your situation, you know that might be another country, but for me it's China, and I was lucky to get a position with a Bachelor of Fine Arts, and a TESOL certificate. I was lucky to get a position, teaching first year university students in China. It went really well. I loved the experience, and I'm looking forward to going back. But right now, in China, more and more, the universities are insisting on a master's degree for teaching English for academic purposes. And I think this is also the case here in Canada (if you want to teach in post-secondary). So for me, that was one kind of instrumental reason for taking the MEd. Aside from that, I really sincerely wanted to understand the learning process better. I mean the TESOL certificate was great for me, but it gives you a certain level of training. And then you go into the practice, and you realize that there are all kinds of issues that come up in learning and teaching scenarios that I wanted to understand better, and that's what this program has given me already. I'm only halfway through so looking forward to continuing into the next two semesters. And I think when I'm finished. I will be able to head back to teaching, whether it's in Canada, or in China, with a really solid understanding of what I'm doing. Always, always being ready to learn of course but this, is really the foundation of that.
Sharing from Current Student - Emily

I got quite lucky teaching, having a teaching position with Ryerson with just a BA and TESL certification. I was lucky enough to get my foot in the door rather early in my career and post-secondary education in Canada. And I realized after working in post-secondary education for about a year and a half that I should really make the most of the opportunity to continue learning, and to continue to 1) have the degree, have the certification for future career opportunities, and 2) also just to continue learning, and similar to what Jeff said, a lot of my colleagues said well, you already have the post-secondary position, why specifically OISE? I said, OISE is so world-renowned, and I think it would just be such a great opportunity to continue learning and growing. Now that I'm nearing the end of my program, it's just been absolutely such a great opportunity to delve into the theory behind the practice and to see so many different ways that my practice and practice within post-secondary education can continue to improve and better serve its students. And now that I'm nearing the end of this program, I will have this masters as my foundation. I'm trying to decide if I want to move into maybe curriculum development or instructional design or perhaps into learning facilitation with corporations or into some other area of adult education. I haven't quite decided yet where I want to go next with this but it's given me that foundation to then decide how I want to specialize or what I want to learn next in my career.

I have a Bachelor's degree from a long time ago. Can I provide 2 professional reference letters?

If you haven't been in school for a long time, it might be impossible to get a letter of reference from one of your former professors. It is okay to get two professional recommendation letters but whatever you can do to encourage at least one of the writers to address your potential as a student, your potential as a graduate student would be helpful.

Could I use the instructor from an AQ course as my academic reference?
Yes, certainly.

Can people with the MEd from OISE apply for Doctoral Degree in the future.

Yes. It can be challenging. You do need to have a thesis equivalent or some kind of publication or some kind of written evidence that you have some experience doing empirical research, too. However, please refer to the admissions requirements of the doctoral program you are interested in.

Can I transfer from MEd to MA?

That also happens occasionally that a student who's in the MEd program realizes after they're in the program that they really wish they could be in the MA.